

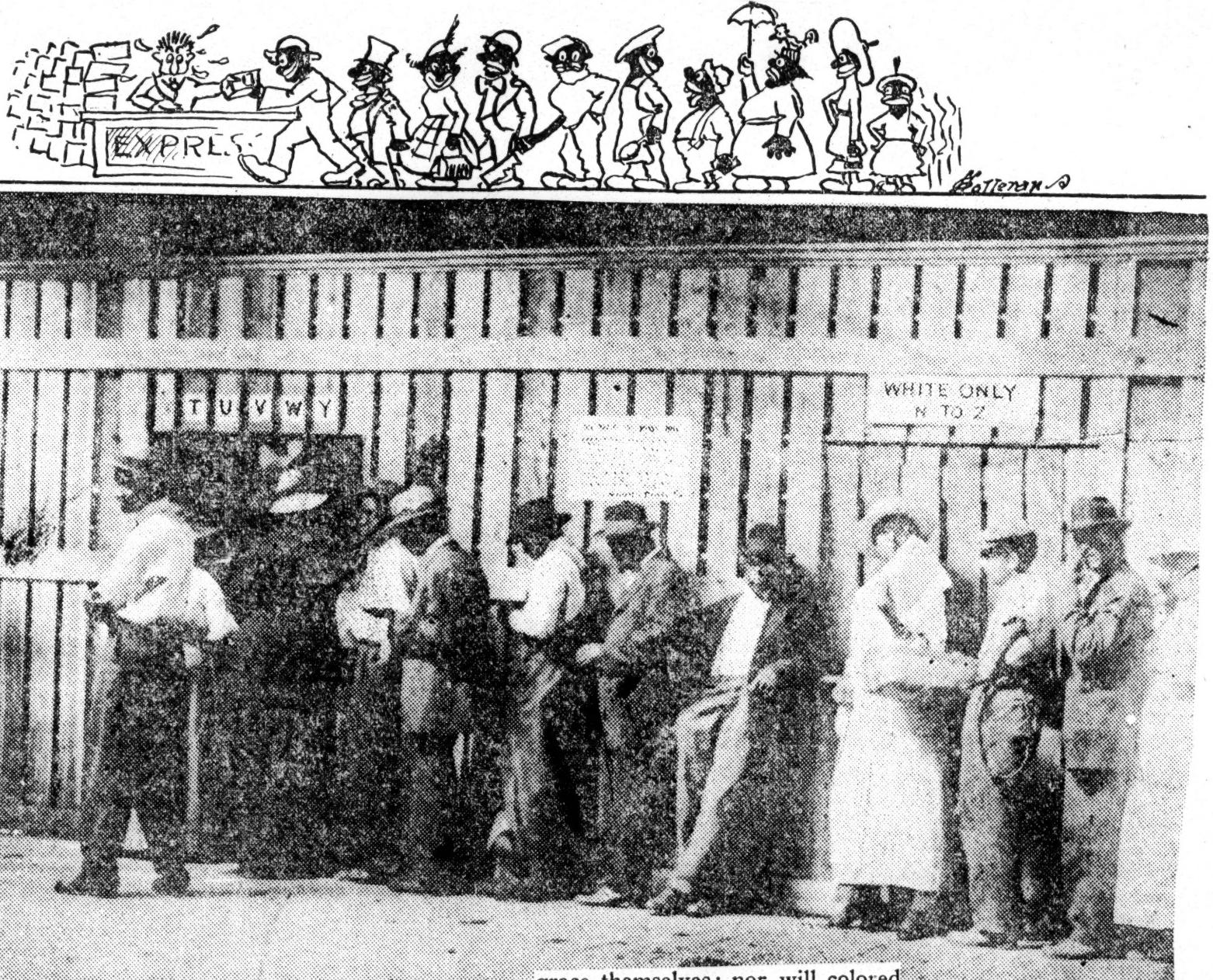


THE POLITICAL FOOTBALL out of the controversy, although

The Negro is the political foot-there is not a colored man in Congress of this country. He is kickedgress. The following paragraph is about from pillar to post in the taken from a dispatch to the New field of politics, and no matter what York Sun, sent evidently by its stand he takes he takes a pace is Washington correspondent:

sue. Damned if he does and damned if he doesn't, the mere fact that he is a Negro gives his opponents an opportunity to allude to him disparagingly and, by innuendo, present him to the public as a menace.

The wisdom of making Washington, D. C., "dry" has been under consideration by the law-makers for several days. But the newspapers find it difficult to keep the Negro



grace themselves; nor will colored

population of the District would, men from neighboring towns be for the most part, vote "wet," and brought to Washington to vote unwhy is such a slanderous suggestion less at the instance of white men. that the colonization of Negroes. The statutes provide that one from neighboring towns would be who gives a bribe is a guilty an easy? Why did not the correspond- offender as one who receives it. But ent suggest the possible coloniza- the white men who stoop so low as tion of white people instead of col- to induce colored men to commit oried people?

acts of indiscretion in politics are

The Negroes of the District of Columbia are intelligent as some until the last National Republican Convention, colored delegates from and more so than many white resi- dents of the South, some of the the South were branded by the white officeholders from the South press as corrupt. That some of in particular. Should the prohibi- them, also white men, accepted tion question ever be put up to the money for their votes cannot be spondent to assume that the Negro voters of the capital city, we are denied. But who gave the money? confident the Negroes will not dis- There would have been no sad

spectacle of colored delegates re- ceiving money had no money been available or if agencies had not been active corralling colored men to accept the money. But the Negro was made to shoulder the whole blame, and the southern representation was cut.

A few weeks before election the Democratic press, in scare head-lines, told the public that thousands of Negroes were being brought North to illegally vote at the Presidential election, although politicians of both parties knew the Democrats were just playing politics. The colored men in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and other states had left the South to earn a livelihood and

not to vote. But the Democrats officers of the law with the evidence or were looking for an issue, and after shut his mouth. He either has this information and is telling the truth, or he is playing to the galleries to be called smart, or a good "nigger." Let Proctor put up or shut up.

Kicking the Negro about may be a favorite pastime with some politicians, but it is an unfair practice, and is apt to have a most harmful effect sooner or later. Sometimes a football rebounds with fatal results.



7/1/16

FIVE MORE STATES IN "DRY" COLUMN

11-9-16
RACE LEADERS.

Leaders, whether they be of races, professions, businesses or what not, as a rule, are chosen because of their peculiar fitness by the race, profession or business to be led. But our esteemed contemporary, the Atlanta Constitution, has never permitted the Negro to choose for himself his leaders. That's an assumption that the Constitution has always arrogated to itself—the right to select for the Negro his leaders. And the three men designated, set apart and consecrated for Negro leadership in this community by our esteemed contemporary, are the Reverend Doctor Henry Hugh Proctor, the Reverend Doctor Richard Daniel Stinson and Prof. B. Rutherford Holmes.

Our contemporary in last Tuesday's issue reported Leader Proctor as having given voice to the following enunciation:

"I am deeply pained that so many of my people who receive these packages are women and girls. I was also informed that many of young boys receive packages for 'blind tigers.' I want to impress these with the fact that this makes them liable to the chain-gang."

Now, if Dr. Proctor is in possession of information that blind tigers are using boys or minors to obtain liquor, and that Negro women are illegally receiving whiskey by express, it is the duty of Leader Proctor to furnish the courts the information to give the Grand Jury or the proper prosecuting officers the names of the persons using minors, and also furnish the evidence to convict the express company and the railroads for delivering whiskey to minors, women and other parties in violation of our prohibition laws.

The Independent stands for the most rigid enforcement of our prohibition laws; and if Doctor Proctor has any information, such as he puts in the newspaper, he ought to turn the guilty parties up, furnish the of-

COLORED WOMEN TO ATTEND CONVENTION

W. C. T. U. Gathering Will Attract
Leaders of Race From All Over
United States and Will Expand
Local Bodies.

preach this morning at the Senate Ave-Friends of the institution are asked to nne Presbyterian Church on "God's Call" to prepare bundles of clothing, shoes and to Holiness." The Bible school will meet other articles for sale. The council is at the regular hour. In the afternoon they are preparing to present the comedy, Missionary Society will meet in the parlor of the church. "Just for Fun," for the benefit of the colored branch of the Y. W. C. A. and

The Rev. W. O. Banks, presiding elder of the Alpha Home. The following persons in the A. M. E. Z. Church, will deliver rehearsing for the play under the direction of Mrs. L. V. Brown: Mrs. A. before the Ministers' Council at the colored Y. M. C. A. Building. The Rev. R. Arthur Dodson, Henry K. Craft and M. P. Christian read the paper last week on L. Stevenson and Miss Flora Harper. "Character Building."

The world's week of prayer will be observed this week by the colored branch Research Club Thursday afternoon at her home on West Tenth street. "The Relation of the Church to Social Work" was evening at the colored Y. M. C. A. Building. The topic for discussion. Mrs. Allieing by the colored Y. M. and Y. W. Cheatham was the principal speaker, C. As. A mass meeting under the direction of the colored branch of the Y. W. C. A. will be held this afternoon at the Second Christian Church. Representatives from the Ministers' Council, the colored Y. M. C. A. and each church in the city will speak. Special music will be given by the choir of the Ebenezer Baptist Church. The captains and workers in the membership campaign will make their final report.

The Rev. E. A. Clark will preach this morning at Allen Chapel on "Stumbling Blocks," and in the evening on "Escaped." Gilbert Stewart of Chicago, will give a piano recital at the church on the evening of Nov. 23. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Fleming entertained at their home on North California street Friday evening in honor of their tenth wedding anniversary. The Azalia Whist Club members were among the guests of honor.

The Rev. P. T. Gorham will preach this morning at Simpson Chapel on "The Cripple at Lystra," and in the evening on "Getting Left." Miss M. H. Demby of Boston, Mass., a soprano singer, will give a recital at the church tomorrow evening. "The Spirit of Sacrifice" will be the subject of the Rev. John Brice's sermon this morning at the United Presbyterian Church. In the evening he will speak on "The Family Altar." The congregation will hold a series of cottage prayer meetings this week in preparation for the revival meeting which will begin next week.

The Rev. W. O. Harper of Youngstown, O., will begin a revival meeting tomorrow evening at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church. He will preach each evening except Saturday. The Rev. G. W. Ward will preach this morning on "The Value of a Soul," and in the evening on "Justification."

The marriage of Miss Jennie Tyree and Jesse Foulke took place Wednesday evening at the home of the bride on Hiawatha street in the presence of a large group of friends. The wedding ceremony was performed by the Rev. C. W. Lewis, pastor of the Olivet Baptist Church. Charles Allen was best man and Miss Sarah Tyree bridesmaid. The wedding march was played by Miss Adelaide Thornton. Mr. and Mrs. Foulke departed immediately for Muskegon, Mich., for permanent residence.

The Rev. Preston Taylor, pastor of the Lee Avenue Christian Church at Nashville, Tenn., will begin a series of evangelistic services at the Second Christian Church. The Rev. Mr. Taylor is one of the leaders among the colored Disciples of Christ. He will preach at both services today and each evening this week except Saturday.

The Rev. E. A. Clark will be the speaker this afternoon at the "monster meeting" under the auspices of the colored Y. M. C. A. His subject will be "How a Black Man Got Religion." Russell Smith's orchestra will furnish the musical program. Miss Clara Kirk will have charge of the program Tuesday evening in the lobby of the building. The "Y" football game with the Wilberforce University team on Thanksgiving day is creating much interest.

The Jones Tabernacle Church will observe its annual homecoming today. All persons who have ever been members of the congregation are asked to be present. Dinner for the old men of the church will be served without cost at the church. The pastor, the Rev. W. L. Rowan, will preach at both services. A fellowship service will be conducted in the afternoon. The Anna Blackwell Missionary Society will meet Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. W. L. Rowan at her home on Camp street.

The Woman's Council, working with the Alpha Home Association, will give a rummage sale for the benefit of the Alpha Home during the next few weeks.

NEGRO PREACHER FOR PROHIBITION

Rev. Coggin Speaks to Large Audience on Temperance Question.

In the course of a speech on temperance at the First Street Methodist-Episcopal church, Thursday night, Rev. J. N. C. Coggin, field secretary of the Temperance Society of that church, made the statement that, during slavery, the white people of the South had passed laws to prohibit negroes from using alcohol but that since 1865 liquor interests had made political bargains with negroes in order to defeat prohibition.

Rev. Coggin's speech was the feature of the second day's conference of the Methodist-Episcopal church here. He addressed an audience of about 1500 people.

"The first difficulty in the way of temperance reform among negroes is the habit of drinking," said Rev. Coggins, in part. "The negro had been taught that strong drink would impart strength by which he would be able to give his employer satisfactory results. This idea was false in its inception and practice, yet we find that it still obtains among our people today to a very great extent.

"The indifference of negro leaders is another difficulty in the way of temperance reform among negroes. It is a colossal fact that can be no longer dodged that the negro leader has not entered sympathetically into the fight against liquor. The temperance agitation is new among my people. Because this is true, religion among the negroes has not reached its highest ethical standard. Indeed we have not divorced liquor drinking from our religion."

St. Louis, Mo., November 8.—The overwhelming "nay" vote in St. Louis apparently defeated the state-wide prohibition proposition in Missouri more than three to one. With the total vote of St. Louis and Kansas City reported, and few rural votes in, the count was 49,561 for and 173,795 against prohibition. This city voted 13,272 for the amendment and 140,910 against.

The Rev. J. L. Craven of Richmond, Ind., visited friends and relatives here last week. He returned home Saturday. The Woman's Club will hold a called meeting tomorrow afternoon at the home of Mrs. H. L. Herod on West Eleventh street. A full attendance of members is desired.

The Four Leaf Clover Club was the guest of Mrs. Harriet Kelley Friday evening at her home on Highland Place. A musical program was given and Miss Ethel Kirk told the story of "Jean Valjean."

The Lot Carey Missionary Society of San Francisco, November 8.—A tremendous vote in San Francisco tipped Thursday afternoon at the church. A

program will be given.

The Woman's Improvement Club will meet Thursday evening with Mrs. Edith Blankenship at her home on West Fourteenth street. The program for the year will be adopted.

Elwin F. Stokes will entertain the Browning Club Saturday evening at his home on Highland Place. Papers will be read by Charles Baughman, C. M. Johnson and Mrs. Ella Clay.

Mrs. W. E. Ruth addressed the Par-

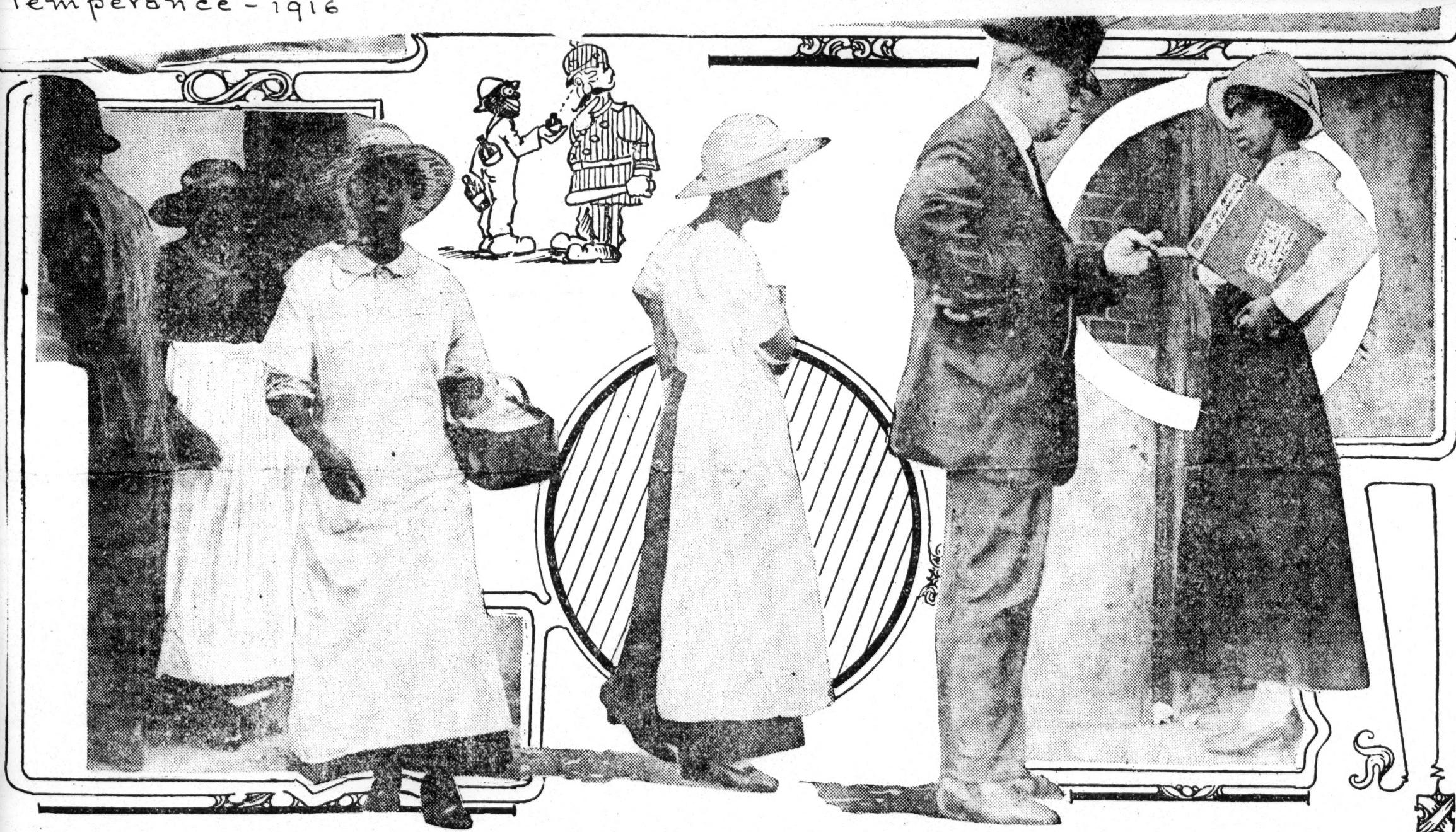
Amendment No. 1 for complete prohibition has not seemed at any time to be

STAR

Indianapolis, Ind.

The Rev. George R. Brabham will

Temperance - 1916



HOW PROHIBITION WORKS IN VIRGINIA

Great Reduction In Number of Arrests On Account of Drunkenness.

Crime Already Decreased.

Journal & Guide
11-20-16 # 24
of the month was 9 arrests against 229 in 1910, 213 in 1911, 227 in 1912, 211 in 1913, 205 in 1914, and 183 in 1915. If any one doubts that prohibition prohibits they have only to study the present conditions existing in Virginia. Richmond, Lynchburg and other cities in the State show a similar decrease in records of arrests for intoxication since prohibition became effective.

If any one doubts that prohibition 211 in 1913, 205 in 1914, and 183 in prohibits they have only to study the 1915. present conditions existing in Virginia Richmond, Lynchburg and other in order to be convinced that it does cities in the State show a similar decrease in records of arrests for intoxication since prohibition became effec- prohibit.

Total arrests reported for drunkenness during the first two weeks of prohibition are little more than was shown in a single day before the Mapp law became effective. Chief of Police Kizer has sent a report to Prohibition Commissioner Peters showing the comparative arrests for drunkenness in the first fifteen days of November of each year since 1910. Attention is also called by Commissioner Peters to the fact that before the law became effective all those who were found drunk were not arrested, only those who were disorderly or unable to take care of themselves being taken in charge by the police; made out as many cases as any two cases, this having not occurred at present, however, every drunken person is immediately arrested. The present figures therefore show a more radical change than appears on the

Asked how Norfolk stood in regard to the enforcement of the law, Mr. Horner said: "All credit possible is due the police force of Norfolk for their activity in the enforcement of the law. Norfolk has been dispensed with because of no one being taken in charge by the police; made out as many cases as any two cases, this having not occurred at present, however, every drunken person is immediately arrested. The also confiscated more than twice as much liquor."

Dry Law Breaks Up Lynchburg Court. Lynchburg, Nov. 20.—For two consecutive days the police court here has rested, only those who were disorderly or unable to take care of themselves being taken in charge by the police; made out as many cases as any two cases, this having not occurred at present, however, every drunken person is immediately arrested. The also confiscated more than twice as much liquor." But two drunks have been arrested here this month.

Closes Half Of Richmond Jail. In seven states, at

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Norfolk Leads State In Enforcement. Norfolk police have captured more than twice as much liquor as any other city in the State, according to a statement made this morning by Guy T. Horner, special representative of Commissioner Peters in charge of the prosecution of liquor cases in Norfolk. Satterfield said today that on Saturday he closed one-half of the city jail and that there had been a net decrease of one hundred and twenty prisoners since November 1, of whom one now received; one month ago he had two hundred and ninety, today only one hundred and six. The New Year's midnight on the last day of the old year, the sale or manufacture of intoxicating liquors was prohibited by statute or by laws enforcing constitutional amendments. These states are Iowa, Colorado, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Arkansas and South Carolina.

Temperance - 1916

In One of the Depots Alone Six Lines of Negroes Are Constantly to Be Found Waiting Their Turn at the Windows Where, by Au- thority of Uncle Sam, They Can Get Liquor.

By Britt Craig.

They say I have "a nose for news." I have now acquired also a nose for booze.

But, wait, let me explain:

I went over to see for myself the sights of the liquor depot at Mangum and Chapel streets—the place where, by authority of Uncle Sam, the state prohibition law is being nullified.

I had never been there before—but it was easy enough to find it.

I simply followed my nose until I came to the express depot at Nelson street and Madison avenue. There I beheld a long line of colored citizens walking across the Nelson street bridge in direction of Madison avenue and carrying nondescript packages in disguise. Each package was disguised by a yellow paper bag, which was so widely prevalent that it no longer served as a disguise, but as an incrimination.

I followed my nose along this line of colored transports until I came to its source—or should I say headwaters? Only water has nothing to do with this story. And there was the express company's liquor depot, as big as an overgrown barn, yet not near big enough.

SIX LINES OF NEGROES.

To accommodate Atlanta's interstate liquor traffic would require terms of acreage, rather than interiors.

I went into the place. There were six lines of negroes—men and women stretching away from as many windows, alphabetically designated. Each line contained as many as twenty or thirty candidates for liquor shipments. There were dozens of groups of stragglers about the place, some of the stragglers being disappointed souls, whose supplies had failed to arrive, and others being there for the purpose of ascertaining to whom among their intimates had come shipments

upon which they could draw.

There were only four white patrons in the place—four young men who stood in line at a single window, individual who was being used self-preservative haste, to bear a pre-entirely for the white service. A second window, installed for whites at the opening of the depot, has been closed for lack of use.

In all, there were 200—or perhaps 250—negroes eagerly lined up at this connecting point with Darktown's mirage of paradise, Chattanooga.

Nearly every class of blacks was represented. There was the buxom washerwoman, bulky of frame, arms akimbo, eyes aglow with expectation; the giant truck driver, loud voiced, muscular; the thin, nervous gambling negro; the sport, fancily attired in checks and colors; his girl, the fashion plate of colored under "society," haughty, saucy; the plain loafers of Decatur street; the police characters, who knew that the credentials calling for two quarts of liquor were also passports to the stockade.

A huge, yellow negro, with frog-like eyes, a protuberant embonpoint, and a profuse sweat beading his brow, fell away from the line at the window marked "A. to B." Dejection was plainly writ upon him, disappointment seemed to wither his stocky frame.

Addressing no one in particular, but the entire collection of his immediate hearers, in general, he was heard to say:

"Lawd, that stuff sho is a long time coming, ain't it?"

He went to the doorway, where he stood, wrapped in meditation and pathos.

"See that nigger?" a squint-eyed young buck nearby asked of his fel-low-darkey. "Dat's de bully of my street, but, boy, two quahts dat didn't come done th'owed him higher'n a kite. In his present state of discom-fit-chore, I could whip him my-self."

Presently the bully was seen to move off up the street. He went in the wake of an undersized civilian, who, bearing a modest package beneath his arm, was stealing into a side street, stealthily seeking to elude the eyes of watchful acquaintances.

ON THE TRAIL

OF THE QUARTS.

On the sidewalks of the vicinity, and on the street corners, were gathered unimportant persons of color, whose mission it was to spot, hawk-like, friends who had knelt beneath the fountain of Chattanooga. They were a vigilant lot. Suspense hung

over them in clouds. Occasionally, one or more would become separated from the nondescript group, or groups, and, with elephantine adroitness, proceed in the direction of a hurrying individual who was endeavoring, with self-preservative haste, to bear a pre-entirely for the white service. A second window, installed for whites at the opening of the depot, has been closed for lack of use.

"Well, it's about time for me to go, as I have an appointment—hate to rush away, but I must be going," would be cast behind as the pursuit was taken up.

Now the fugitive was overtaken.

"Excuse me, Mr. Washington, but that is sho a curious bundle you have in yo' possession."

From Mr. Washington:

"Nigger, I wish you'd hush yo' mouth!"

The phenomenal popularity of the possessors of packages was exceeded only by their anxiety to evade it.

"Excuse me, Mr. Johnson, but—"

"Go on, woman, you ain't foolin' nobody but yo'self," would come in reply from a packaged pedestrian thus accosted.

"Limberfoot" Mandy Jones, whose record at police headquarters is as long as the liquor order she would send to Chattanooga if the law permitted, stood in line for thirty minutes, nervous, impatient, vexed. Finally, she relinquished her place and proceeded toward the door.

"I can't stand here and wait all day," she spoke audibly to herself. Three darkies looked upon her in amazement.

"Somep'un de matter with dat 'oman," followed Mandy's departure. Patrons appeared with all manner of objects in which to carry shipments away. A number of suitcases were

receptacle, especially for the white customers, since the location of the liquor depot is in vicinity of the Terminal station, the patron can bear his 'bundle through the downtown throngs with uncolored ears and uplifted eyes, flying the flag of a transient.

A highly stylish dark woman came in for her monthly two quarts of unleashed temperament. She stood in line thirty minutes, and, upon receiving the carton package, fondled it with reverential tenderness.

"Liza, that is some auspicious bundle you has there," remarked an acquaintance in her outward path.

"Yas, sah," she threw across her shoulder, "and this am goin' to be some auspicious bun, too, John Henry."

Moist-lipped negroes looked with the feeble-minded, the perverted, the

famished eyes upon the great store degraded, the degenerate, are afforded of parcels on the shelves back behind the very intoxicants prohibition pur- the windows. There was enough poses to deny them. "True," my prohibitionist friend fight and fury, unbridled emotion and eruption stored in those piles upon said, "they can't get it in quantities as piles of yellow cartons to demoralize liberal, but whisky is whisky, be it a pint a day or half gallon a month."

The catacomb of shelves offered to view long rows of cartons filled with rise to speculation—has drinking in unmitigated essence of eruption. Small wonder that sight of them bulged the eye of the eager throng assembled to get its part. Bacchus doubtless never gazed upon a garden of grapes less inspiring than this catacomb of Chattanooga cartons!

CITY DETECTIVES ON THE LOOKOUT.

But, though Bacchus might have been held the grape, George Maddox, the young and industrious detective detailed to the liquor depot, saw other things in the vast store room. In one allotment of two quarts, he perhaps perceived Lula Belle's predestined fit of jealousy that would end the night of her jamboree in work for the ambulance surgeon to whose lot fell the sadly whittled remains of her faithless Lochinvar.

To George this package contained a major percentage of bloody murder; another anything from arson to rape. Bacchus might have visualized comradeship and revelry at sight of the carton-clad parcels, but the man from headquarters saw only gore and strife. Each of those bundles represented to him so much concentrated pandemonium—each meant a certain amount of labor on the part of the police department.

George moved unobtrusively through the crowd of blacks. Darktown denizens who recognized him gazed upon him in prophetic discomfiture, as though to plead guilty in advance to the familiar "drunk and disorderly."

Then, there is nothing, perhaps, that gives greater impetus to that guilty feeling than the presence of a regulation-size carton under the arm, be the bearer black or white.

WHITES NOTICEABLE BY ABSENCE.

But where did the white patrons go for their shipments? Throughout my stay of two hours at the depot I saw less than a dozen whites line up at the window prescribed for them.

Then there returned to me the words of a prominent prohibitionist, who said that the greatest obstacle encountered by prohibition was the federal law permitting interstate shipment, for reason that the chronic drunkard,

The absence of the white class gave the scene at the white window of the liquor depot would indicate? This being the case, it looks like the liquor dealers are in for a protracted drouth.

The typical negro drinker is worse off with two quarts of liquor at a time than he would be if a drink was available at any moment of his thirst. He cannot resist the temptation to celebrate the arrival of his monthly allotment.

This is how he feels about it, and in this he is not alone, as there are countless whites of the same temperament:

"Well, this is the first liquor I've had in a long time, and it will be the last in a long time—I might as well make the best of it."

The "best of it" is usually a good spree. He has been denied the drink for a period of such length, perhaps, that his acute thirst cannot resist the temptation to go as deep into his half gallon as his capacity will allow.

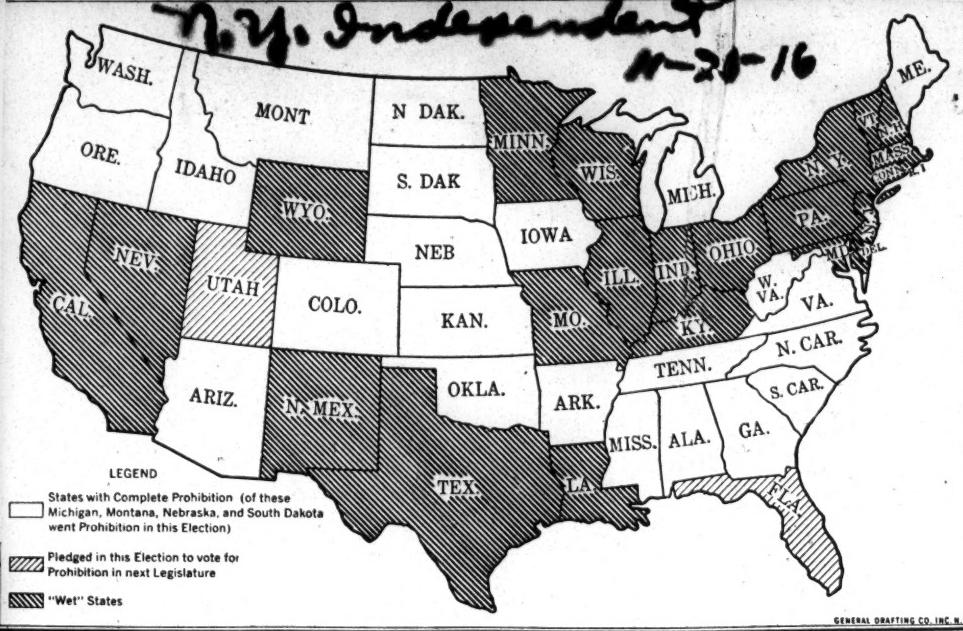
Then, too, he figures that the preservation of the liquor for daily consumption is a hazardous business, in that there is the peril of theft, the danger of friends besieging him—any number of hazards to be run.

A SERMON FOR EVERYBODY.

The express company's liquor depot would give my prohibitionist friend ample material for a sermon on interstate traffic. I would advise him to go down there and take some friends along to see the motley crowd of patrons which besieges the depot windows from 7 a. m. to 5 p. m. in a half dozen steady streams.

But, then, it would be a sermon for anybody who cared to go, prohibitionist or what not. The characters that gather there, their actions, their joys and disappointments, the overwork attaches performing a day's just dr in a traffic that sends Mandy a

No. 24. Independent
11-28-16



HALF THE UNION DRY

Twenty-three states have voted for prohibition—four in the last election—and two more, Utah and Florida, have elected legislatures pledged to adopt prohibition in their next session.

MISSISSIPPI PROHIBITION MORE

Southwestern Christian Advocate

The House of the Mississippi Legislature by a vote of 110 to 12 recently adopted the Roberson-Anderson prohibition bill which is regarded as drastic a measure as was ever passed by any legislative body. The purpose of the bill as stated is to "promote temperance and suppress the evils of intemperance, to restrict the consumption of spirituous, vinous, malt and other fermented liquors," putting the ban on every species of intoxicants. The bill would prevent the shipment into the state to one person of more than one quart of spirituous liquors every fifteen days. The present law of gal-

lon a day of whiskey or one case of beer is to be repealed. The penalties fixed for violations of the said law were not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 fine for each offense and imprisonment for not less than thirty days nor more than six months in the county jail. *2/10/16.*

PROCTOR'S WORTHY PROTEST.

As a prelude to a Sunday sermon at the First Congregational church, colored, Rev. H. H. Proctor struck at a wrong which demands investigation and remedy in the interests of the whole people of the city and state—for all, white as well as black, suffer from the evil.

Referring to the fact that a large majority of those who call at the express office for liquor shipments are negroes, Proctor said:

Constitution

"I am deeply pained that so many of my people who receive these packages are women and girls. I was also informed

The self-respecting colored people of the city resent the wrong in the light of the evil which is sure to result from it, and that resentment is shared by the law-upholding citizens of the entire community.

6-27-16
Girls and boys privileged to receive packages of whisky to keep the blind tigers busy! It is nothing less than criminal.

And it is a shame and disgrace that women should be permitted to crowd the liquor-delivery line, as is the case from day to day.

Even when the saloons were here the law did not permit women and children to enter them; but now, it seems, the whisky dispensers from abroad can sell to them and to minors!

Well may the pastors of the colored churches, as in the instance of Dr. Proctor deprecate this great wrong to their race and use every means in their power to rectify it.

For here is a weaker race, needing help instead of hindrance in the work they have to do for the betterment of their condition; and all the time the greatest enemy they have is free to strike at the happiness of their homes and to destroy whatever of peace and prosperity their labors may have won for them.

With regard to these liquor shipments to the ignorant and irresponsible, it may be said that they should be as much the wards of the state as the Indians, in that respect, are of the government.

Liquor has been at the bottom of most of their troubles.

Something must be done to put an end to this, and it is up to the state to take the matter in hand at the earliest possible moment.

There is no doubt at all that the law is being evaded where such a state of affairs exists. It is disgraceful—it is criminal.

Temperance - 1916

Stringent Prohibition Law

Brings Era of Prosperity

Constitution

To Cities Throughout State

7-2-16

Reports From Many Cities

Show Improved Trade Conditions Since New Law Went Into Effect.

POLICE RECORDS SHOW LESS "DRUNK" ARRESTS; CASH SALES INCREASE

People Are Spending Money For Groceries and Supplies Instead of With Saloon Keeper.

Reports and expressions of opinion assembled from the leading merchants not only of Atlanta, but of other important business centers in all sections of the state, making them representative, all go to clinch one conclusion: That the bulk of the money formerly going to enrich the perveyor of whisky and beer, now, since the prohibition law became effective, May 1, is diverted into the channels of trade in necessities. In other words, instead of wasting his resources as formerly, the average former drinking man is now providing for his family, paying his legitimate accounts with regularity and the seller of foodstuffs and clothing is reaping the harvest reaped in the old days by the dealer in alcoholics.

Everywhere is shown a marked improvement. Every community in the state, as is shown by this canvass, is better, happier and more prosperous today than it was prior to May 1—better morally as well as financially.

This last fact is conclusively proven by the police blotters of the various cities; by the county court dockets and by the records of the charitable institutions of the state.

By no means has the consumption of liquor been stopped in the state. The law's framers nor its friends never intended that it would be; but the open ale of it has virtually ended, and the charitable organizations, the settle-

ment workers and the sellers of shoes, clothing, foodstuffs and even amusement tickets, is best answered by a prominent local merchant, who says: "I am carried away with the improvement. Bills are being met promptly, old ones being paid. There is more money being paid per capita and in the aggregate for necessities of all sorts; and there is a spirit of optimism pervading all branches of industry and the homes of the city which is as delightful as it is refreshing."

Grocerymen See Improvement.

Speaking of how prohibition has affected his business, R. A. Broyles, owner of the Broyles chain of grocery stores, said:

"I have been impressed with the marked improvement in trade since the passage of the prohibition law, and know of no other cause to which it might be attributed except the enforcement of the prohibition law. Business has held up longer this year than formerly, and it has been especially noticeable throughout May and June."

C. G. Jones, manager of the main store of the Rogers chain at No. 9 North Broad street, put it this way:

"Every week since the prohibition law went into effect there has been a great improvement over the corresponding week last year. The people are buying groceries now, instead of beer and whisky, and I never see any under the influence of whisky in the store. I am carried away with the improvement."

SAVANNAH MERCHANTS PLEASED WITH PROHIBITION ENFORCEMENT

Savannah, Ga., July 1.—(Special)—Two months of Georgia's new prohibition law leaves Savannah still dry. Anti-prohibitionists predicted early in May that the police would cease their vigilance and Mayor Pierpont would not remain firm in his determination to enforce the law against the sale of whisky in Savannah, but all of the prophecies have failed, as liquor is not easily obtainable except on order from outside the state.

That the business interests of Savannah are more than satisfied with the operation of the prohibition law, under a strict enforcement of the statute, is conclusively shown by a careful poll of the merchants. They are delighted because the money that formerly was wasted in the bar-rooms is now spent with them for legitimate merchandise. And the merchants thus referred to include the butchers, bakers and grocers, who agree that the middle-class people are eating a better quality of food than they ever have before in Savannah.

Merchants all say that collections have been better during the last two months than ever before at this season of the year, and they attribute this satisfactory condition to the fact that laboring people pay on their accounts with the money that they would squander if the bar-rooms were open, and liquor was being sold in the old-fashioned way.

General order all over Savannah is better than it was before the prohibition law went into effect. This is shown by the police records. Few arrests have been made for drunkenness, although the police have been more alert in dealing with intoxicated persons than before. Only fifteen arrests for drunk or drunk and disorderly conduct were made during the entire month of May this year as against 150 during June, 1916. During June, 1915, there were 236 arrests for drunkenness, and as nearly as can be ascertained before the total footings for the month shall have been made, against 1915, 711 cases made of "drunk and disorderly," as against approximately 480 for June of the current year, up to the 20th, as against 106 for the same period last year.

Prohibition Boon to Negro.

Negro ministers have been interviewed on the efficacy of the enforced prohibition law, and to a man they have proclaimed it a boon to the colored man. One representative negro minister said there had been a very noticeable improvement in the general conduct of the colored laboring people. He said their outings and meetings in every instance have been orderly and almost entirely free from disturbances. He went even further than that and claimed that the church collections had "picked up."

Officials claim there has been a distinct falling off in the number of arrests for every class of violation of city ordinances that have not the remotest connection with the sale of liquor. Mayor Pierpont attributes this to the fact that the enforcement of the new state laws against liquor inevitably breeds respect for all laws.

MACON MORE THAN PLEASED WITH IMPROVED CONDITIONS

Macon, Ga., July 1.—(Special)—After two months of prohibition of the most rigid kind, a good many Macon people are beginning to ask themselves why the state's lawmakers waited so long as they did to enact the legislation that would put an effective stop to the sale of intoxicating liquors in Georgia. They are beginning to see that after all, conditions as a whole have been benefited, as money that formerly flowed into the coffers of the liquor dealers finds its way into other channels.

Probably the most noticeable change since the new laws became effective is around the police barracks. When Macon's sixty-eight so-called near beer saloons were in operation arrests for drunkenness averaged around 100 a week. Usually on Monday morning when the recorder opened his docket he would find anywhere from twenty-five to fifty cases docketed with the charge "drunk" or "drunk and disorderly" written opposite the name of the offender. The Monday morning brigade of drunks was the accumulation from Saturday night and Sunday. The majority of the offenders were negroes, but there were a number of white men who were regular visitors in court as a result of their weakness.

Drunk Man a Curiosity.

Now it is different. Some days not a single charge of drunk is docketed by the police, and there are never more than three or four cases of this nature on Monday morning. On the streets a man under the influence of liquor is somewhat of a curiosity, where a few months ago nobody, with the exception of the policeman on the beat, paid any attention to him.

Figures for the months of May and June of this year, as compared with the same months of last year, are not available, but it can be safely said the latter would exceed the former by four or five to one.

Men who were formerly engaged in the near beer business in Macon—which meant operating a "blind tiger," as a rule, say they are glad to be out of the business. Many of them have entered other lines of business, and some of them are said to be doing as well or better in a financial way than they did in the liquor business. Where saloons were formerly located, grocery stores, restaurants, repair shops and other lines of business are now in operation. Several near beer dealers who signed an oath never to engage in it again in Macon so long as it is a violation of the law, have left the city for other states, where they can carry on their business under the protection of the law.

Clean Up Poplar Street.

There is one street in Macon that has undergone a rather remarkable change since the prohibition law went into effect. This is Poplar street. During the early part of the year in the short space of three blocks on that street there were ten saloons in opera-

tion and about each one hung a crowd of loafing men, always some among them the worse for having indulged too freely. Women were accustomed to give the street a wide berth. It is different now. The dives have been cleaned out. The center of the street where the old city market house formerly stood has been parked, and the business houses themselves have taken on a more prosperous air. Now the most sedate of Macon women can walk along Poplar street without seeing or hearing anything that might offend.

The effect on the laboring classes is best seen by the increase in the cash trade reported by the grocerymen of the city. A representative of The Constitution called on several of them a few days ago and asked them if their cash business had shown any improvement since the prohibition laws became effective, and if customers who were lax in paying their bills before were doing any better now that they were not spending their money for booze.

One local groceryman stated that he lost a large trade in pickles, cheese, crackers and other things of like character when the saloons closed up, but added that he had more than made it up in the increase in trade from his customers who appeared to have more money to spend on their tables. Said this merchant:

"Of course, people still buy whisky and beer, but they can get it only in small quantities, and, as a result, men who formerly spent their money for drink now are seldom without money with which to buy food for their families. I know of several instances of men who used to let their wives and children go hungry in order that they might satisfy their thirst for liquor, who now provide their families with an abundance of eatables."

"Cash is freer now than it was at this time last year when the saloons were in operation. Of course, the fact that the saloons have been closed may not be entirely responsible for it, but I believe it has played its part. Anyway, my cash sales for June of this year are more than double what they were for June of last year."

COLUMBUS BUSINESS BETTER SINCE LAW WAS PASSED

Columbus, Ga., July 1.—(Special)—Prohibition has brought an improvement in moral and business conditions in Columbus, but it has not brought about a revolution. Human nature does not change over-night, and what has happened has been about in line with the predictions of conservative students of such matters, including prohibitionists.

But there has already been an improvement. It is expressed in the following terms: Reduced number of cases in police court; increased deposits in savings banks; better retail trade.

The police court is the clearing house for drunkenness, disorder and minor crime in a city, and the police court is considered a barometer of a community's moral condition in the broad sense of the term. From May 1, 1915, to June 24, 1915, 955 cases were docketed in recorder's court by the Columbus police force. From May 1, 1916, to June 24, 1916, the total number of cases docketed was 637. The number of "drunk" cases entered on the local police blotter between May 1, 1915, and June 24, 1915, totaled 326. For the corresponding period of 1916 the total number of "drunks" as of official record was 135. The same authority, by the way, shows that the two months just prior to May 1 last formed a season of celebration with the bibulously inclined, for from March 6 to May 1, 444 drunk cases were docketed in police court. For the same period the total number of cases of all kinds entered on the recorder's court docket was 871.

The month of May as compared with May of 1915, showed a striking decrease in the amount of drunkenness in the city. The comparative record for June was not so good. The number of drunk

cases is now on the increase, there having been 20 at one session of the police court this week. The police attribute this to the resumption of liquor selling in Girard and the fact that more whisky is now being shipped direct to Columbus consumers than was the case in May.

There has naturally been much interest in the effect of prohibition on labor. It is difficult to make an intelligent comparison in this respect with conditions a year ago on account of the fact that the demand for labor in Columbus is now much greater than it was then. A number of cotton mills have enlarged and are enlarging their capacity and there is considerable night work in the factories. Labor has made a good response to the additional demands upon it, and there is much less idleness here than was the case a year ago. The so-called "clubs" frequented mostly by working people have for the most part disbanded. There is not as much loafing in places of questionable character as formerly.

Your correspondent asked the superintendent of one of the large cotton mills here if his help is more reliable or dependable than it was before May 1. He considered his answer carefully.

"Prohibition is a good thing," he said. "As to our own case, I see no special difference in the mass of our operatives in the respect you mention. They were reasonably dependable before May 1 and still are. There is this noticeable difference, however: Formerly a certain element among our operatives would draw money at times to pay police court fines. They have practically ceased drawing any money for that purpose since May 1."

Working People Save Earnings.
Columbus is a great savings town. The savings banks here are heavily patronized, and among the depositors are thousands of working people. In recent months the deposits of the savings banks have been increasing. One institution, alone, has over a million dollars on deposit.

"Is prohibition responsible for the increased savings?" a banker was asked.

"To be perfectly honest, I am not prepared to say," was his frank reply. "A great many working people have their transactions with us Saturday afternoon. I could not say that the Saturday deposits are especially heavier. Still, one thing is certain: Our deposits are steadily increasing, and working people are among our best customers."

Retail trade in Columbus is improving, and has been for some months. Unquestionably prohibition has helped it. There are about 200 grocery stores in Columbus and suburbs, and most of them make their living out of the working people. The majority of the working people here are cotton mill operatives, and cotton mill people are good spenders.

Columbus real estate has been livelier this spring and summer than in two years. Generally improving conditions are responsible for this in the main, but the broad effects of prohibition have probably been a factor.

The sentiment in Columbus is more strongly prohibition than at any time in the city's history, and advocates of the state law are generally satisfied with results as seen locally, especially when they consider that the fact that Columbus is on the state line acts to that extent as a handicap in the rigid enforcement of the prohibition law.

AUGUSTA COURTS FINING ALL ALLEGED "TIGERS."

Augusta, Ga., July 1.—The arrests for drunkenness in Augusta during May and June, 1915, were 166—eighty-nine for May and seventy-seven for June. The arrests for drunkenness in May and June, 1916, were 63—thirty-three for May and thirty for June. The arrests for the two months this year exceeded those for the two months reported to the ordinary of Floyd county this year by 103. The arrests have

decreased nearly three-fold. Bank deposits in Augusta are \$3,000,000 in excess of the normal. This is unquestionably a great supply of liquor had been laid in just prior to the fire. Some proportion of it, however, is attributed to savings by men less than 25 per cent who suffered no fire loss, and who did not save before May 1.

Retailers assert that there is increase in cash purchases. They declare that the decrease in requests for credit is remarkable and that accounts have been better paid up during the past two months than in years. Old accounts are being given more careful attention by customers and have been reduced materially where in the past attempts at collections met with slow success. The accounts referred to are the small accounts for household supplies carried from week to week by wage-earners. Dealers who sell furniture on the installment plan say that they, during this May and June, encountered less requests for further time and met with more prompt payments than in the past. Customers are invariably found "at home" Saturday nights. Formerly 50 per cent of them were not found at home. This reference particularly to wages patrons.

Court Kept Busy.

The full extent of temperance contemplated under the prohibition law, it appears, has not yet been secured in Augusta. This statement is based on seventy indictments in the present session of the city court charging illegal sale as well as illegal possession of liquors, indicating that in addition to fifteen hundred orders filled under the law with the ordinary there has been significant consumption through illegal channels. Trials of these cases were begun this week and convictions are rapidly resulting. No defendant has yet been acquitted. The juries are paying no attention to "unconstitutional" arguments, and, on satisfactory-to-them evidence of illegal sale or possession convictions are prompt.

Street talk is that last week liquor was easily secured here. This week whisky is hard to get. It is the belief that, following the convictions in the city court, the illegal sale will be reduced to the minimum. The police force and the county police give every indication that they and their superior officers are enforcing the law rigidly. The courts are showing no patience with offered technicalities in the trial of cases.

ROME POLICE RECORDS SHOW GREAT DECREASE.

Rome, Ga., July 1.—At the close of the second month's enforcement of Georgia's new prohibition law in Rome, arrests for drunkenness and disorderly conduct, according to the docket at the local police station, show a decrease of practically 60 per cent over the preceding two months before the new law went into effect. Rome police officers state that they have had far less trouble with drunkards than they did before the new law went into effect.

Owners of Rome grocery stores report there is a satisfactory increase in cash business from among the laboring people. However, this presumable effect of the prohibition law was not as marked as the decrease in the number of arrests. The local grocers assert that their cash business depends more directly upon the operation of factories than upon any other factor. Their cash business is good when the factories are running full time or over time, and show a falling off when some of the factories are closed. The grocers do say, however, that they notice an apparent increase in the cash business, especially from negroes, and are inclined to attribute this to less drinking and less money being sent out of town for liquor.

The express receipts on liquor as exceeded those for the two months reported to the ordinary of Floyd county this year by 103. The arrests have

month of June over the month of May.

In Miami, Fla. Negro voters helped to carry the prohibition ordinance.

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